



# Maui Wildfire Recovery

## Phase 1: Hazardous Material Removal

September 11, 2023

*So much Maui give to da world. As guests, we honored fo give our support back.*

Da U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stay conducting one Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assign-mission fo survey, remove, and throw-way hazardous materials from properties affected by da wildfires in Lāhainā on Maui. Da EPA already pau da mission in Kula.

Da EPA's hazardous materials work takes place during **Phase 1** of da overall federal cleanup response. **Phase 2** going be debris removal and going be done by one agency das yet fo be determine.

### **Dis work stay free fo residents.**

**Da EPA going remove everyday products like::**

- ✓ Paints, cleaners, and solvents
- ✓ Oils, batteries, and pesticides

**Da EPA going also remove asbestos and inspect pressurize fuel cylinders (like propane tanks).**

- Aftah one fire, dis kine products need special handling, especially if da container get damage.
- EPA field teams like remove stuff dey tink might get asbestos only if easy fo see em, but da property not going be *fully* clear till Phase 2.



*Examples of hazardous materials dey going remove.*

### **Like visit yo property?**



*Anybody who going visit fire-impacted properties should follow da health guidance from da Hawai'i DOH fo yo own protection.*

*Ash and debris might get harmful-kine contaminants like asbestos, lead, and arsenic dat you can inhale or can enter da environment.*

**[tinyurl.com/DOHwildfirehealth](https://tinyurl.com/DOHwildfirehealth)**



*EPA inspectors going mark some empty containers with one white X and leave em fo removal fo Phase 2.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

**How da EPA going remove hazardous materials from on top my property?**

1. EPA team going survey yo property fo work conditions.
2. One second EPA team going remove hazardous materials.
3. When da work pau, da EPA going put one sign on top yo property (*see da example sign on da right*).

## Special Circumstances

- If da condition on top yo property not safe enough fo one EPA team fo go in, den dey going leave da hazardous material fo Phase 2.

**Da EPA only going remove hazardous materials.**

If dey find firearms dat work or suspected remains, den da EPA going stop working and contact da Maui Police Department.

**How come gotta remove hazardous materials?**

- Hazardous materials stay harmful fo da environment and residents, so dey gotta try safely remove em befo can start Phase 2.

**I gotta give da EPA permission fo enter my property?**

- No. Da State of Hawai'i wen issue one order on August 10, 2023, dat wen grant da EPA da authority fo access properties without permission from da property owner.

**Da EPA going remove anything else oddah than hazardous materials?**

- No. Da EPA only going remove hazardous materials.

**Dey wen clear da hazardous stuff from my neighbor dem property but not from mine one. How come?**

Get several factors affecting our teams' schedules:

- Da EPA field teams no can work in areas when oddah field crews stay dea, cause of safety and/or congestion. Da weather and daylight can affect da schedule too.
- Field crews no can work on property dat get dangerous trees or terrain, unstable structures, or any oddah no safe kine conditions. Dey going take care dat kine property during Phase 2 (debris removal), but das not going be done by da EPA.

**What da paint marking on top my property means?**

- **White stake and signage:** Dis site stay all clear. No mo hazardous material. All pau already.
- **White X mark:** Empty Hazardous kine containers. Containers should be left alone.
- **White MT mark:** Fuel tank contents was transferred and dey stay leave da tank dea fo now.
- **Red paint:** Lithium battery power walls.



- **Pink paint:** Suspected material might get asbestos dat going take mo than half hour fo remove so going be left dea fo removal during Phase 2.
- **Orange paint:** Septic system location, damaged transformer, or any item left fo da high hazard team fo complete.
- **Orange equal sign = on tree:** Use caution, might be dangerous when get big wind.
- **Orange X** on top da tree – Dis tree dangerous, maintain one safe distance.
- **Orange arrow on top da tree pointing up** – Use caution, dangerous tree limb.
- **Blue flagging** – Cultural area, use caution.

**Fo some mo info about what da EPA doing, go contact us at:**

Email: [R9Wildfiresinfo@epa.gov](mailto:R9Wildfiresinfo@epa.gov)

Phone: 808-539-0555

**or visit:**

[epa.gov/maui-wildfires](http://epa.gov/maui-wildfires)

[facebook.com/EPAregion9](https://facebook.com/EPAregion9)

[twitter.com/EPAregion9](https://twitter.com/EPAregion9)

[instagram.com/epagov](https://instagram.com/epagov)

**Fo mo information about da Maui Wildfires, go visit**

[mauicounty.gov](http://mauicounty.gov) and [mauinuistrong.info](http://mauinuistrong.info)